

# THIEU REPORTED TO BE OBJECTING ON 4 KEY ISSUES

## Snags Said to Include P.O.W.'s and Truce Supervision but Not Broad Outlines of Accord

By SYLVAN FOX

Special to The New York Times

SAIGON, South Vietnam, Thursday, Jan. 18—President Nguyen Van Thieu has raised several serious objections to aspects of a proposed Vietnam peace agreement, a well-informed but unofficial South Vietnamese source said yesterday.

The source also said, however, that Mr. Thieu had accepted the broad outlines of a draft peace accord.

According to the South Vietnamese source, President Thieu's objections deal with elements of the protocols, or technical documents, that accompany the draft agreement and are intended to carry it out.

The reported objections center on four key issues.

One concerns a vagueness in the protocols about which prisoners are to be released after a cease-fire, such as Vietnamese and foreign prisoners held outside South Vietnam, and those held by the Communists inside South Vietnam.

Another objection concerns the stationing of mixed military commission around Vietnam, with the Communists wanting units in more places than do the South Vietnamese.

A third reported objection deals with limitations on the activities of military and police units in South Vietnam. The protocols are now said to bar the Government's units from moving freely in the areas that it controls or from flying over them.

A fourth reported major snag's refusal to recognize as Saigon's territory the half of the demilitarized zone that lies south of the demarcation line, which runs through the middle of the zone.

On Tuesday, Vietnamese officials close to the presidential palace said that while details of the cease-fire agreement remained to be worked out, President Thieu was expected to approve the agreement. The unofficial source who commented yesterday did not contradict that view. He expressed the belief that Mr. Thieu's objections—dealing not with the main accord but with protocols, or documents on the mechanics of putting it into effect—could be resolved in short order, clearing the way for a cease-fire announcement.

Mr. Thieu's objections are understood to have been conveyed to General Haig, who presented him with the Vietnamese text of the draft peace agreement Tuesday.

Mr. Thieu and his aides have been studying the document since then. Last night General Haig and Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker again met with Mr.

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Thieu at the Presidential Palace. There was no immediate word on its outcome.

President Thieu's reported objections are described as follows:

### MIXED MILITARY COMMISSIONS

Under the terms of the draft accord, representatives of the United States, North Vietnam, South Vietnam and the National Liberation Front would serve on mixed military commissions to help supervise the initial stages of a cease-fire. It has been agreed that this body would have its headquarters in Saigon but there is disagreement about where else units

would be stationed.

President Thieu wants them in Da Nang, Pleiku, Bien Hoa and Can Tho. Hanoi wants them also stationed in Hue, My Tho and Phan Thiet.

"These areas are Vietcong strongholds," the source said, "and they surround our positions. We cannot agree to them."

### PRISONERS

According to the source, the protocols are vague in defining which prisoners are to be released after a cease-fire, and appear to ignore several classes of prisoners now being held by the Communists.

President Thieu, the source said, wants the protocols to define three types of prisoners

who will be released—foreign military and civilian prisoners held outside South Vietnam, including those in Laos, Cambodia and North Vietnam, Vietnamese military and civilian prisoners held outside South Vietnam, and civilian and military prisoners held by the Communists inside South Vietnam.

The source was careful to note that by civilian prisoners, he did not mean political prisoners, which he said was a matter to be resolved between North Vietnam and South Vietnam. As an example of civilian prisoner he cited journalists, Government employes, contractors, missionaries and civilians held in Communist-occupied areas of South Vietnam.

### LIMITATION OF MOVEMENT

Under the terms of the protocols, the source said, South Vietnamese military and police units would not be permitted to move freely within those areas they controlled, nor would they be allowed to fly over them.

"It's stupid," he said of this provision. "How can the police keep order if they cannot move around freely? How can we train pilots if we cannot fly?"

### DEMILITARIZED ZONE

The source said that there had been agreement on the re-establishment of the 1954 line, the Ben Hai River, just south of the 17th Parallel as the "temporary" demarcation line between North Vietnam and

South Vietnam. But he said that the North Vietnam had not agreed that territory within the four-mile-wide demilitarized zone but south of the river belonged to South Vietnam. The territory is currently in North Vietnamese hands.

These are reportedly not the only elements of the protocols that concern President Thieu but they are described as the most significant.

In an apparent effort to resolve these issues, President Thieu has ordered a military delegation headed by Lieut. Gen. Vinh Loc to go to Paris to work on the protocols.

The President also met today

with Gen. Cao Vann Vien, chief of the South Vietnamese General Staff, and the commanders of the country's four military regions.

Meanwhile, American intelligence analysts reported that Vietcong units in South Vietnam were being informed that a cease-fire was coming soon.

The Vietcong units were similarly instructed to expect a cease-fire in October, intelligence experts said then, and launched a series of attacks to seize territory as the deadline — Oct. 31 — approached.

This time, according to the American analysts, the Vietcong units have been told to expect a cease-fire around Jan. 20. Thus far, however, military activity has remained at a low level.

In a rare break from its customary silence, the South Viet-

namese Government yesterday denied a Columbia Broadcasting System report from Saigon that a cease-fire would be declared on Jan. 19. [C.B.S. reported afterward, however, that informed sources in Saigon continued to say that a cease-fire could be expected by the end of the week.]

Hoang Duc Nha, President Thieu's press secretary and closest adviser, said in a statement to the press that the report was "totally inaccurate and a whole product of the imagination of the Saigon bureau of the Columbia Broadcasting System."

Earlier, Donald Webster, the acting C.B.S. bureau chief in Saigon, had been summoned to the Information Ministry and handed a letter denying the report and warning a C.B.S. reporter, Richard Wagner, "for the last time that he must be most careful about making reports susceptible to confusing public opinion."

"We may be forced to apply energetic measures to similar instances," the letter concluded.

### Aides Report to Nixon

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla., Jan. 17 (UPI)—President Nixon, working on his Inaugural Address, kept close watch on peace efforts today, receiving reports from his special representative in Saigon, Gen. Alexander M. Haig Jr., and talking for 40 minutes by phone with Henry A. Kissinger in Washington.